

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 971

To increase the authorizations for the War in the Pacific National Historical Park, Guam, and the American Memorial Park, Saipan, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 18 (legislative day, APRIL 19), 1993

Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. HEFLIN, and Mr. FORD) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To increase the authorizations for the War in the Pacific National Historical Park, Guam, and the American Memorial Park, Saipan, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds that—

5 (1) June 15 through August 10, 1994, marks
6 the 50th anniversary of the Mariana campaign of
7 World War II in which United States forces cap-
8 tured the Japanese islands of Saipan and Tinian

1 and liberated the United States Territory of Guam
2 from Japan;

3 (2) an attack during this campaign by the Jap-
4 anese combined fleet, aimed at annihilating the
5 United States forces that had landed on Saipan, led
6 to the battle of the Philippine Sea, which resulted in
7 a crushing defeat for the Japanese by United States
8 naval forces and the destruction of the effectiveness
9 of the Japanese carrier-based airpower;

10 (3) the recapture of Guam liberated one of the
11 few pieces of United States territory that was occu-
12 pied by the enemy during World War II and re-
13 stored United States Government to more than
14 20,000 native Guamanians;

15 (4) units of the United States Army, Navy, Ma-
16 rine Corps, and Coast Guard fought with great brav-
17 ery and sacrifice, suffering casualties of approxi-
18 mately 5,700 killed and missing and 21,900 wound-
19 ed in action;

20 (5) United States forces succeeded in destroy-
21 ing all Japanese garrisons in Saipan, Tinian, and
22 Guam, which resulted in Japanese military casual-
23 ties of 54,000 dead and 21,900 taken prisoner;

24 (6) Guamanians, notably members of the Navy
25 Insular Force Guard and volunteer militia, bravely

1 resisted the invasion and occupation of their island,
2 and ultimately assisted in the expulsion of Japanese
3 forces from Guam;

4 (7) at the hands of the Japanese, the people of
5 Guam—

6 (A) were forcibly removed from their
7 homes;

8 (B) were relocated to remote sections of
9 the island;

10 (C) were required to perform forced labor
11 and faced other harsh treatment, injustices, and
12 death; and

13 (D) were eventually placed in concentra-
14 tion camps and subjected to retribution when
15 the liberation of their island became apparent
16 to the Japanese;

17 (8) the seizure of the Mariana Islands severed
18 Japanese lines of communication between Japan
19 proper and those remaining Japanese bases and
20 forces in the Central Pacific south of the Mariana
21 Islands and in the South Pacific as well;

22 (9) the Mariana Islands provided large island
23 areas on which advance bases could be constructed
24 to support further operations against Japanese pos-
25 sessions and conquered territories such as Iwo Jima

1 and Okinawa, the Philippines, Taiwan, and the
2 south China coast, and ultimately against the Japa-
3 nese home islands;

4 (10) the Mariana Islands provided, for the first
5 time during the war, island air bases from which
6 United States land-based airpower could reach
7 Japan itself; and

8 (11) the air offensive staged from the Mariana
9 Islands against Japanese cities and economic infra-
10 structure helped shorten the war and vitiate the
11 need for the invasion and capture of the Japanese
12 home islands.

13 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

14 It is the sense of Congress that—

15 (1) an appropriate commemoration of the 50th
16 anniversary of the Mariana campaign should be
17 planned; and

18 (2) the Secretary of the Interior should take all
19 necessary steps to ensure that two visitors centers to
20 provide appropriate facilities for the interpretation
21 of the events described in section 1 are completed,
22 one at the War in the Pacific National Historical
23 Park and one at the American Memorial Park, be-
24 fore June 15, 1994, the beginning of the 50th anni-
25 versary of the campaign.

1 **SEC. 3. WAR IN THE PACIFIC NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

2 Section 6(k) of the Act entitled “An Act to authorize
3 appropriations for certain insular areas of the United
4 States, and for other purposes”, approved August 18,
5 1978 (92 Stat. 493; 16 U.S.C. 410dd(k)), is amended by
6 striking “\$500,000” and inserting “\$8,000,000”.

7 **SEC. 4. AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK.**

8 Section 5(g) of the Act entitled “An Act to authorize
9 appropriations for certain insular areas of the United
10 States, and for other purposes”, approved August 18,
11 1978 (92 Stat. 492), is amended by striking “\$3,000,000”
12 and inserting “\$8,000,000”.

○